



OESNEWS

Governor's Office of Emergency Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 1, 2007

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As Temperatures Rise, State Opens Cooling Centers in Seven Additional Counties

In response to the National Weather Service issuing heat advisories for seven additional counties over the weekend, the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) have opened additional cooling centers in Mariposa, Merced, Orange, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo and Ventura counties.

"I encourage Californians to take action to protect themselves and their loved ones from the extreme heat that is extending its reach across the state this holiday weekend," said OES Director Henry Renteria. "It is particularly important to monitor the health and well being of vulnerable individuals, including the elderly and disabled. Check in on them to make sure they have a cool environment and plenty of water."

Cooling centers were opened earlier this week in Los Angeles, Kern, Kings, Imperial, Madera, Riverside, Tulare and Fresno counties, where the National Weather Service is forecasting temperatures to be 10 degrees above normal, with night time temperatures only reaching the upper 70s and low 80s.

The state-run centers will be opened from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. through at least Tuesday in the 15 counties, with the exception of the Ventura County facility, which will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. (See list of centers and locations below.) These are in addition to the cooling centers opened by local governments. Those needing transportation to cooling centers should contact their local service provider to arrange for assistance.

OES, in partnership with the Franchise Tax Board, has also established a toll free number 1-877-435-7021 Voice or 1-800-822-6268 TTY for concerned citizens to call to obtain heat-related information, referral numbers for the impacted counties, as well as locations of open cooling centers. The hours of operation are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily and will remain available until the severe heat has passed. A list of cooling center locations can also be found on the OES Web site at www.oes.ca.gov.

To avoid heat exhaustion, heat stroke and other heat-related complications, state officials recommended that Californians:

Create a cooler environment by making sure that window air conditioners are installed snugly, making sure that window air conditioners and air conditioning ducts are properly insulated, weather stripping doors and sills and placing window reflectors made of cardboard covered with aluminum foil between windows and drapes.

Drink plenty of water, especially when taking medication.

Wear lightweight and light-colored clothing.

Avoid physical activities during periods of peak temperatures.

Check-on neighbors and family members to ensure they are not being harmed by the heat.

Watch for signs of heat-related illness, including fatigue, nausea, headache and vomiting.

-- More --

Visit malls, theaters and other public places that are air-conditioned if they don't have their own air conditioning.

To protect California's workers, Cal/OSHA's first in the nation heat illness prevention regulations are in place to provide workers and employers with guidelines and requirements for preventing heat illness and information on what to do should a worker become sick. More information can be found at www.dir.ca.gov/heatillness.

For more information on heat safety, visit www.oes.ca.gov.

State Cooling Center Locations

Fresno County

21st District Ag Association
The Big Fresno Fair
1121 South Chance Ave.
Fresno, CA 93702

Imperial County

45th District Ag Association
California Mid-Winter Fair &
Fiesta 200
E. Second Street
Imperial, CA 92251

Kern County

15th District Ag Association
Kern County Fair
1142 South P Street
Bakersfield, CA 93307

Kings County

24-A District Ag Association
The Kings Fair
810 S. 10th Ave.
Hanford, CA 93230

Los Angeles County

50th District Ag Association
Antelope Valley Fair
2551 W. Avenue H
Lancaster, CA 93536

Madera County

21-A District Ag Association
Madera District Fair
1850 W. Cleveland Ave.
Madera, CA 93637

Mariposa County

CalTrans Midpines
Maintenance Station
6610 Highway 140
Midpines, Ca

Merced County

Merced County Fair
900 Martin Luther King, Jr.
Way
Merced, CA
www.mercedcountyfair.com

Orange County

Orange County Fair
88 Fair Drive
Costa Mesa, CA
www.ocfair.com

Riverside County

Riverside County Fair &
National Date Festival
46-350 Arabia Street
Indio, CA 92201

San Bernardino County

National Orange Show
689 S. "E" Street
San Bernardino, CA 92408

San Diego County

San Diego County Fair
2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd.
Del Mar, CA
www.sdfair.com

San Luis Obispo County

California Mid-State Fair
2198 Riverside Ave.
Paso Robles, CA

Tulare County

24th District Ag Association
Tulare County Fair
Martin Luther King Jr., Ave.,
Tulare, CA 93274

Ventura County

Ventura County Fair
10 W. Harbor Blvd.
Ventura, CA
www.seasidepark.org